

**REMARKS**

This Amendment is submitted in response to the outstanding Office Action, dated May 27, 2004. The present application was filed on February 16, 2001, with claims 1-28, of which claims 1, 15, 19, 24, 27, and 28 are independent claims. In the Amendment and Response to Office Action dated March 16, 2004, claims 9 and 23 were cancelled. Claims 1-8, 10-22, and 24-28 are currently pending in the above-identified patent application. Claims 1, 3, 4, 6, 11, 15, 17, 19, 20, 24, 27, and 28 are proposed to be amended and new claims 29 and 30 are proposed to be added herein.

In the outstanding Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1-8, 10-22, and 24-28 under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Logan et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,721,827, hereinafter "Logan," in view of Ladd et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,539,359, hereinafter "Ladd."

Claim Rejections

The Examiner rejected claims 1-8, 10-22, and 24-28 under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Logan in view of Ladd.

Regarding claim 1, the Examiner asserts that Logan discloses determining a first time (log file) associated with a first of the voice commands (first command "Go," col. 12, lines 55-67).

Applicants note that, in the text cited by the Examiner, Logan teaches that "the system records the start of the new segment on the log file." (Col. 12, lines 65-67.) The start of the new segment is logged to facilitate billing (col. 26, lines 53-59). Thus, Logan teaches that "each time *the playback begins* a new programming, advertising or announcement segment, the segment start time is recorded in the usage log file stored at 109 (FIG. 1)." (Col. 11, lines 26-28; emphasis added.) Logan does not disclose or suggest that the time recorded is the time that the *voice command is spoken*. In fact, a person of ordinary skill in the art would recognize that the difference between the time the voice command is spoken and the time of the start of the new segment could be very large and have a large variance due to the time needed to access the information requested (if necessary), and start or stop a new segment. Independent claims 1, 19, and 27, as amended, require determining a first time associated with a *speaking* of a first of the voice commands, *wherein said first voice command identifies a start of a time*

*interval*. Independent claims 15, 24, and 28, as amended, require determining a time associated with a *speaking* of each of the voice commands.

Thus, Logan does not disclose or suggest determining a first time associated with a speaking of a first of the voice commands, wherein said first voice command identifies a start of a time interval, as required by independent claims 1, 19, and 27, as amended, and does not disclose or suggest determining a time associated with a speaking of each of the voice commands, as required by independent claims 15, 24, and 28, as amended.

Additional Cited References

Ladd was also cited by the Examiner for its disclosure of converting each of at least two voice commands to text. Applicants note that Ladd is directed to a markup language for interactive services (see, Abstract). Ladd does not address the issue of determining time intervals utilizing voice commands.

Thus, Ladd does not disclose or suggest determining a first time associated with a speaking of a first of the voice commands, wherein said first voice command identifies a start of a time interval, as required by independent claims 1, 19, and 27, as amended, and does not disclose or suggest determining a time associated with a speaking of each of the voice commands, as required by independent claims 15, 24, and 28, as amended.

New Dependent Claims 29 and 30

New dependent claims 29 and 30 have been added to more particularly point out and distinctly claim various features of the invention, consistent with the scope of the originally filed specification, in order to give applicant the protection to which he is entitled. No new matter is introduced. New claims 29 and 30 are original claims 9 and 23, respectively. More specifically, new claim 29 recites determining text versions of the at least two voice commands by comparing words in the text with phrase grammar rules. New claim 30 recites wherein the computer-readable code is further configured to: convert each of the at least two voice commands to text; and determine text versions of the at least two voice commands by comparing words in the text with phrase grammar rules.

New claims 29 and 30 are dependent on claims 1 and 19, respectively, and are therefore patentably distinguished over Logan et al. and Ladd et al. (alone or in any combination) because of their dependency from amended independent claims 1 and 19 for the reasons set forth above, as well as other elements these claims add in combination to their base claim.

Dependent Claims 2-8, 10-14, 16-18, 20-22 and 25-26

Dependent claims 2-8, 10-14, 16-18, 20-22, and 25-26 were rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Logan, in view of Ladd.

Claims 2-8 and 10-14, claims 16-18, claims 20-22, and claims 25-26 are dependent on claims 1, 15, 19, and 24, respectively, and are therefore patentably distinguished over Logan et al. and Ladd et al. (alone or in any combination) because of their dependency from amended independent claims 1, 15, 19, and 24 for the reasons set forth above, as well as other elements these claims add in combination to their base claim.

Conclusion

All of the pending claims following entry of the amendments, i.e., claims 1-8, 10-22, and 24-30, are in condition for allowance and such favorable action is earnestly solicited.

If any outstanding issues remain, or if the Examiner has any further suggestions for expediting allowance of this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number indicated below.

The Examiner's attention to this matter is appreciated.

Respectfully submitted,

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